

## CLAIMS

1. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals, comprising:

a holder which holds said recording medium having said connection terminals and which is moved between an insertion/take-out position where said recording medium is inserted or taken out and a completion position where the loading of said recording medium is completed;

a chassis for supporting said holder movably between said insertion/take-out position and said completion position;

terminal electrodes which are mounted to said holder and to which said connection terminals of said recording medium are connected; and

a lock lever for locking said holder in said insertion/take-out position, wherein

the locking of said holder in said insertion/take-out position by said lock lever is released when said connection terminals of said recording medium are connected to said terminal electrodes.

2. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said lock lever is provided with a restricting portion for restricting the movement of said holder from said insertion/take-out position, and said lock lever is turnable between a lock position and a lock release position relative to said holder;

a bias spring is provided for biasing said lock lever toward said lock position;

said chassis is provided with a restricted portion opposed to said restricting portion of said lock lever when said holder is locked; and

a predetermined gap is formed between said restricting portion of said lock lever and said restricted portion of said chassis at said insertion/take-out position.

3. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals as set forth in claim 1, comprising:

a conveying rack having a rack portion movable relative to said holder in the same direction as the moving direction of said holder;

a transmission gear meshed with said rack portion of said conveying rack;

a drive motor for transmitting a drive force to said conveying rack through said transmission gear; and

a limiter spring for connecting said conveying rack and said holder to each other and for biasing said holder toward said insertion/take-out position.

4. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said holder is integrally provided with a holding portion for holding said recording medium inserted in said holder.

5. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals as set forth in claim 4, wherein

said holder is formed of a metallic material; and an embossed form projected portion projected to the internal space side of said holder is formed as said holding portion.

6. A loading apparatus for a recording medium having connection terminals as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said holder is provided with an operating projected portion; and

a changeover switch is provided which is operated by said operating projected portion so as to change over the driving condition of said drive motor.

7. A recording and/or reproduction apparatus comprising:

a holder which holds a recording medium having connection terminals and which is moved between an insertion/take-out position where said recording medium is inserted or taken out and a completion position where the loading of said recording medium is completed;

a chassis for supporting said holder movably between said insertion/take-out position and said completion position;

terminal electrodes which are mounted to said holder and to which said connection terminals of said recording medium are connected;

a lock lever for locking said holder in said insertion/take-out position and for releasing the lock of said holder in said insertion/take-out position by said lock lever when said connection terminals of said recording medium are connected to said terminal electrodes; and

recording and/or reproduction means for performing recording and/or reproduction of information on or from said recording medium at said completion position.